

Baie D'Urfé Library

Compiled Reports for the Year 2019

President's Report

Libraries have been in the news lately. Libraries are evolving!! We have read about the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) including more dynamic forms of learning (Lego, board games) in their libraries and the Atwater Library, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary, is described as a “social hub and gathering spot”. The Baie-D'Urfé Library is also evolving. We offer more community activities & programmes for adults and children than ever before. I'm sure our librarian, Chris Marsh will speak to specific activities, but the library is constantly trying new activities to see what will stick.

Having said that, our main activity continues to be the lending of books and other library materials (DVDs, Audio books, CDs, magazines) in both English and French; for adults, young adults and children.

As you will see in the following reports it has been a good year for the Baie D'Urfé Library. Our collections have increased, our membership has increased, the number of volunteers has increased and our finances look healthy.

The Library is run by a volunteer Executive Committee who hire two staff members, a full-time librarian and a part-time library technician. This year (2019) has been one of continuity. Our staff and Executive Committee have remained unchanged since our 2018 AGM. Chris Marsh is the Librarian and Linda Audet is the library technician.

Executive Committee members include **Nadia Bissada**- Vice-President & News & Views, **Bev Beauchamp**- Junior Committee, **Doug Cole**- Treasurer, **Philip Cumyn**- Past President & Secretary, **Sophie Dutoy**- French book selection, **Margaret Hallahan**- Volunteer Coordinator, **Dianne Perdue-Lillie**- Magazines, **Herb Pidcock**- English book selection, **Tobby Skeie**- Exhibitions, Computers, **Elise Titman**-President and **Kitty Wilkes**-Audio-Visuals.

There are approximately seventy other volunteers who work at the circulation desk, help in the workroom and serve on the buying committees. Many volunteers wear several hats. Several volunteers have retired this year but thanks to Margaret Hallahan's recruiting efforts we have also welcomed new volunteers to our ranks. Library volunteers can be very loyal. In recognition of their outstanding service to the library, Long Term Service Awards were given to retiring volunteers **Una Bennett, Barbara Lewis, Catherine Stewart and Ilse Zadrozny** at the Annual Volunteer Reception.

After several years of technological updates this year our major crisis was the repeated break down of our WiFi connection during the summer. This was resolved after much effort on the part of Chris and Linda. The running of the library for the staff, volunteers and patrons is now highly dependent on having WiFi. Just recently we have updated to an email address exclusively for volunteer communications. This is in contrast to the telephone tree I recently found in my library file from 10 years ago!!

Thanks

I would like to thank Chris and Linda for providing the professional expertise, good humour and patience necessary to run an otherwise volunteer operated recreational library. They do an excellent job and the library could not function without them. Their help is both acknowledged and highly appreciated by the Executive, the volunteers and indeed by the Library members.

I would particularly like to thank the members of the Executive. At every monthly meeting I am impressed by the dedication, enthusiasm and thoughtfulness that these volunteers bring to their various responsibilities.

As for the many other volunteers, I'm sure Margaret Hallahan will speak to this, but it is clear that we could not operate without them.

Thank you to the Baie-D'Urfé Town Council for its continued support. Not only does the Town provide the space housing the library but it also provides almost 90% of the funds required to run it. We are grateful to Mayor Tutino and members of Council for their continued and generous support.

We are grateful to the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications de Québec for its financial support.

Respectfully submitted, Elise Titman, President

Treasurer's Report

See attached financial statements

Librarian's Report (prepared by Christopher Marsh)

Services

The library's core service continues to be the loaning of fiction and non-fiction books, along with other library materials, to meet the recreational needs of our community. This service is supplemented by our expanding participation in the **inter-library loan program** through which we borrow and lend books to and from other libraries. Our **home delivery program** was successful again this year, and continues to attract new patrons. Residents continue to make use of our technological services through our **free internet, public computer, and tablet**.

The library serves as a community hub where Baie-D'Urfé residents meet, socialize, and expand their network. The **Baie-D'Urfé Language Group (BULG)** uses the library as a meeting space for two of their discussion groups. **Beginner and intermediate French classes** offered by the Marguerite-Bourgeoys school board are hosted in the library's workroom. **After-school tutors** frequently use the library as a place to teach their students. Beginning this year, we also connect to the community through **Little Free Libraries** located around the city.

Children's Programming

This summer, the library offered the **TD Summer Reading Club**, which motivates youth to develop their literacy skills and read all summer long. The Club's weekly activities were successful once again, and an end of summer celebration party took place where prizes were handed out. The monthly **Lego Club** nights were offered again this year and this program continues to bring children and families into the library. Bi-weekly **Chess and Checkers** meetings have been offered to the community, and as well as a monthly **Craft Hour for Kids**. Additional **Family craft activities** were run by Oana Silaghi-Bedikyan for both St. Valentine's Day and Easter. The library teamed up with Baie-D'Urfé's Junior Council to run **Books to Film Night**, a film activity for teens and children. The year ended with the start of a new activity, **Bedtime Storytime**, run by youth volunteer Natasha Drouin.

Adult Programming

The popular **English Book Club** has continued this year, and an **author visit** from award winning author Eliza Robertson was organized for our book club members. The **French book discussion group**, la Soirée des lecteurs, was a success again this year. The **NFB Film Club** was offered to the community, and was later replaced by the **Library Film Club**, with the help of Audio Cine Films Inc. **1-on-1 technology help** sessions were offered as requested, where patrons were taught different skills and were provided with technical assistance.

The library engaged in many literary events this year, including a **Memoir Writing workshop** from author Merryl Hammond; **Writers' Open Mic Nights**, which brought several talented writers to the library; and a **Canada Reads Listening Party** that was acknowledged and greeted on CBC Radio. These supplemented our **Baie-D'Urfé Writers' Circle**, where library patrons meet every month to share their writing projects. Library patrons participated in **quilting courses** run by Bev Beauchamp, and a monthly

Knit Night activity. The library also offered several one-time events to residents including **Microsoft Skills Workshops**, a **National Bi-Polar Day** event, and a course on **How to Manage Your Finances in Retirement**.

The library online

We continue to communicate with our users online through our **Facebook** account, **Instagram account**, and our monthly **email newsletter**. Library patrons continue to make use of their **online accounts** to reserve and renew books. The library's **website** attracts regular visitors, as residents make use of our **online catalogue**, **recommended reading slideshow**, and **new arrival pages** available to patrons.

Thanks

I would like to thank all of our great volunteers for the hard work, dedication, and time that they put into library activities. This includes our library's executive, who are a constant source of support and insight. I would also like to thank the city for the services and assistance that they provide, especially when we encounter technical and building-related issues. Lastly, I would like to thank Linda Audet, our library technician. Linda has a long list of essential tasks that she completes for the library, including cataloging and the creation of new memberships. Just as important is that she always provides valuable insight into situations, lends an ear when I am uncertain as to the right course of action, and she was a huge source of support during the unique situations we encountered last year. Thank you Linda!

Membership report

The library has 2490 current members. Over 94% of our members are Baie-D'Urfé residents; the remaining are non-resident members from a variety of neighboring towns. Over 83% of our members are adult and over 16% are juvenile members (under 13 years of age). 80% of our members are declared as Anglophone, while 20% have declared themselves as francophone. We are proud to offer free membership to all Baie-D'Urfé residents, and affordable fees for our out-of-town members.

Inter-Library-Loan statistics / Statistiques des Prêts-entre-bibliothèques

ILL borrowed from other libraries	323
PEB empruntés à d'autres bibliothèques	
ILL loaned to other libraries	387
PEB prêtés aux autres bibliothèques	

Collections	2019 circulation	Circ. as % of collection ¹	Circ. as % of total circ. ²
ADULT-ADULTE			
Adult Fiction	4312	59%	24%
Romans Adultes	888	27%	5%
Adult Graphic Novels	46	42%	0%
BD Adultes	134	80%	1%
Adult Non-fiction	1366	38%	8%
Documentaires adultes	368	24%	2%
JUVENILE-JEUNESSE			
Juvenile Fiction	424	31%	2%
Romans Jeunesse	237	26%	1%
Juv. Graphic Novels	356	246%	2%
BD Jeunesse	494	163%	3%
Juvenile Non-fiction	447	26%	2%
Documentaires Jeunesse	232	23%	1%
Picture Books	930	61%	5%
Albums Illustrés	701	53%	4%
Board Books	224	156%	1%
Livres Cartonnés	102	105%	1%
Easy Readers Fiction	686	83%	4%
Lectures Faciles - Romans	699	98%	4%
Easy Readers Non-fic.	123	42%	1%
Lectures Faciles - Documentaires	106	45%	1%
YA – ADO			
YA Fiction	283	38%	2%
Romans Ados	73	16%	0%
YA Non-fiction	25	15%	0%
Documentaires Ados	4	5%	0%
YA Graphic Novels	29	38%	0%
BD Ados	13	87%	0%
AV & OTHER – AUDIO-VISUEL & AUTRE			
Adult Audio Books	309	74%	2%
Livres Audio Adultes	48	39%	0%
Juvenile Audio Books (EN&FR)	55	40%	0%
Juvenile Kits (EN&FR)	107	68%	1%
Adult Music CDs	50	5%	0%
Juvenile Music CDs	51	88%	0%
Juvenile DVDs	860	108%	5%
Adult DVDs	1047	65%	6%
Teen DVDs	109	89%	1%
Totals	18022	59%	

¹ Number of circulations divided by number of total items in this collection (i.e. English Adult Fiction) multiplied by 100.

² The circulation of this collection, divided by the total circulation of the full library collection multiplied by 100.

2019	Total Added	Total discarded	Total in Catalogue	% of total collection ³	Collection refreshment rate ⁴
ADULT-ADULTE					
Adult Fiction	518	385	7368	23%	7%
Romans Adultes	349	156	3272	10%	11%
Adult Graphic Novels	16	0	109	0%	15%
BD Adultes	14	0	167	1%	8%
Adult Non-fiction	176	116	3585	11%	5%
Documentaires adultes	178	66	1523	5%	12%
JUVENILE-JEUNESSE					
Juvenile Fiction	31	47	1350	4%	2%
Romans Jeunesse	64	37	906	3%	7%
Juv. Graphic Novels	14	4	145	0%	10%
BD Jeunesse	25	18	304	1%	8%
Juvenile Non-fiction	35	24	1736	5%	2%
Documentaires Jeunesse	58	12	1009	3%	6%
Picture Books	47	75	1531	5%	3%
Albums Illustrés	70	9	1323	4%	5%
Board Books	14	1	144	0%	10%
Livres Cartonnés	3	1	97	0%	3%
Easy Readers Fiction	43	2	826	3%	5%
Lectures Faciles - Romans	89	9	714	2%	12%
Easy Readers Non-fic.	8	24	291	1%	3%
Lectures Faciles - Documentaires	21	8	235	1%	9%
YA – ADO					
YA Fiction	44	56	748	2%	6%
Romans Ados	56	34	444	1%	13%
YA Non-fiction	4	0	164	1%	2%
Documentaires Ados	0	0	73	0%	0%
YA Graphic Novels	4	0	76	0%	5%
BD Ados	0	0	15	0%	0%
AV & OTHER – AUDIO-VISUEL & AUTRE					
Adult Audio Books	58	0	415	1%	14%
Livres Audio Adultes	29	0	123	0%	24%
Juvenile Audio Books (EN&FR)	0	0	139	0%	0%
Juvenile Kits (EN&FR)	13	0	157	0%	8%
Adult Music CDs	4	0	916	3%	0%
Juvenile Music CDs	0	0	58	0%	0%
Juvenile DVDs	13	0	796	2%	2%
Adult DVDs	55	1	1601	5%	3%
Teen DVDs	2	0	122	0%	2%
Totals	2055	1087	32482		6%

³ Number of items in this collection divided by the number of items in the total library collection, multiplied by 100.
 Nombre des articles dans cette collection divisé par le nombre des articles dans la collection totale, multiplié par 100.

⁴ Percentage of the total collection that is new items purchased this year (items added divided by collection total multiplied by 100). Pourcentage de la collection qui est des nouveaux articles acheté cette année (articles ajouté divisé par la collection total multiplié par 100)

Committee Reports:

A. Adult English Book Selection Report

Our Committee in 2019 included Marlene Fisher, Toby Skeie, Jennifer Williams and myself and we are all continuing in 2020. We used to visit the Nicholas Hoare Booksellers Warehouse to choose our new books and it was easy pleasant work to agree on each book. Since they closed down their business in Montreal we buy from Librairies Clio, which has a smaller stock of books, so now we mostly use book reviews in the media and meet six times each year to discuss about 180 books in each meetings from which I order 100 books from Clio. This requires many hours for the Committee comparing reviews then writing our own recommendations for our meetings so I am eternally grateful to Marlene, Toby and Jennifer for the long hours they put in sifting through literally thousands of book reviews and I certainly could not do this job without them.

The bright spot in my Library year was in November 2019 when Chris successfully responded to my annual suggestion -that it would help if we could know how well each of the books we bought had done with our readers. I make this request every year, and it was never possible before, but this time when Chris spoke to the wizards at Mandarin they came up with a new software app. that does exactly what we wanted. So now we have huge Excel spreadsheets with the number of loans and renewals of every Adult English Fiction book in the library going back to its first issue, and cross referenced with the author, date of issue and our fiction genre code.

Many of the books we buy are by authors we already have in the Library. A useful product of this new information is the possibility of grading each author by how successful their books are with our Library Members as measured by the number of times each book has been borrowed. We now have the main list divided into four lists of authors with circulation grades of their books of: Low-loans (L L:0 to 3), OK loans (O:4 to 9), Good loans (G:10 to 19) and Excellent loans (E:more than 20 loans). We hope to improve the general circulation of fiction books, which represents over 70% of our books budget, by avoiding authors who have not done well and choosing books by authors with better circulation grades. Of course we always aimed for that in the past but without the actual detailed records we have now.

A preliminary count (and not counting 2019 which was incomplete when we received the report from Chris) is: In the Library there are 408 authors with a L L grade; 1,049 with an OK grade; 400 with a Good grade and 87 with an Excellent grade. There are often a number of books by each author.

Another use of the data is with the overall circulation of all the books in each genre. For 2020 I want to make our budget based on the percentage of each genre's total circulation and we will see if that results in an increase this year.

Members suggestions continued to be received at a steady rate of 10-11 suggestions per month through the year and we buy just about all the suggested books except when Chris decides to use the inter-library loan service.

In 2019 we had a budget of \$23,400 and bought 669 books in print at an average cost of \$32.02 /book, and 44 talking books mostly on CDs for an average cost of \$40/audio book.

Respectfully submitted by Herb Pidcock.

B. Adult French Book Selection Report

Le budget qui nous a été alloué pour l'année 2019 était de \$ 15,600 , en baisse d'un peu plus de \$ 1000 pour être plus au prorata du nombre de lecteurs francophones comparé au nombre de lecteurs anglophones tout en nous laissant un budget fort généreux qui nous a permis d'acquérir 459 livres et 18 livres parlants. Des 459 livres, 137 sont d'auteurs québécois et 322 d'auteurs étrangers, écrits en français ou traduits

Cette répartition de 30 à 70% est très semblable aux deux années précédentes où on pouvait observer une répartition de 31 à 69% en 2017 et 31.50 à 68.50% en 2018

Le prix **général** moyen des livres cette année à été de \$ 33.96. Pris séparément, le prix moyen **des livres québécois** était de \$ 27.90 tandis que les **livres étrangers** coûtaient en moyenne \$ 34.02

77% du budget à été consacré à l'achat de romans de littérature générale, policiers , romans historiques, fantastiques, d'anticipation, biographies et nouvelles. Les essais et livres d'intérêt général divers représentent 20% de nos achats et les BD 3% comparativement à 2018 où 62% du budget avait été consacré aux romans, 35% aux livres d'intérêt général et 3% aux bandes dessinées. Il apparaît donc que nous avons acheté sensiblement plus de romans au détriment des livres d'intérêt général alors que nos achats de bandes dessinées sont restés sensiblement les mêmes.

Si nous mettons cela en parallèle avec la circulation il apparaît que les emprunts de romans ont légèrement augmenté mais sont restés très proches de ceux de 2018. Il en est de même pour les œuvres d'intérêt général. Par contre, nous avons vu, cette année, une forte augmentation des emprunts de bandes dessinées lesquelles avaient connu, l'an dernier, une chute assez importante.

Avec l'aide de Linda et Chris, nous avons implanté récemment un système de catégorisation des romans afin de pouvoir avoir une idée plus précise de ce qui est le plus en demande. Il est trop tôt pour pouvoir tirer des conclusions mais un contrôle après 6 mois nous donnera suffisamment d'indications pour pouvoir éventuellement rectifier nos choix.

Cette année nous avons reçu environ 22 suggestions comparativement à 20 en 2018. Tous les titres suggérés ont été achetés. Il reste cependant que nous aurions aimé avoir plus

d'indications concernant les lectures que nos membres favorisent. Avec l'aide de l'exécutif, nous continuerons à voir ce qui pourrait être entrepris pour compléter notre information à ce sujet.

Notre comité s'est réuni 2 fois en 2019 mais la plus grande partie du travail s'effectue en échangeant des listes de titres par courriel. Nous allons avoir une réunion importante après l'assemblée générale pour analyser ensemble l'activité de 2019 et prendre des orientations en fonction de ce qu'il en ressort.

Il me reste à remercier Manon Tourigny, Marjolaine Loevenich et Philippe Paulmer, notre comité d'achat, pour le sérieux qu'ils mettent à établir leurs choix en se référant à des sources d'information et critiques fiables et bien documentées et le travail qu'ils accomplissent avec tant de gentillesse et disponibilité.

Merci à Linda et Chris, toujours prêts à aider de leur conseils et nous procurer les informations pertinentes nous permettant de mieux faire nos choix. Merci aussi au comité exécutif et plus particulièrement Elise Titman, pour leur support continu et encouragements.

Et enfin, nos remerciements s'adressent bien évidemment à notre Mairesse Maria Tutino et son équipe ainsi qu'au Gouvernement du Québec, pour leur aide financière grâce à laquelle nous pouvons continuer à fonctionner.

Soirées des Lecteurs

Je voudrais ajouter un petit mot à propos des « Soirées des Lecteurs » qui se tiennent tous les 3^e jeudi du mois. C'est une occasion unique de parler des livres que vous avez aimé et dont vous recommandez la lecture.

Très souvent ces rencontres débouchent sur de très intéressants échanges d'idées; elles sont source d'enrichissement personnel et permettent de créer des liens avec d'autres membres du groupe.

Les titres présentés sont repris sur des fiches qui sont mises à la disposition des usagers de la bibliothèque et peuvent les guider dans leur choix de lecture et les livres dont la présentation a été faite lors de ces soirées, sont mis en évidence sur les étagères au centre de la bibliothèque.

L'objectif de ces rencontres est de promouvoir la lecture dans l'espoir que d'autres y prennent goût pour leur plus grand bénéfice. Nous serions donc très heureux d'accueillir de nouveaux participants.

Venez voir, entendre et découvrir sans que cela ne crée aucune obligation de revenir si l'expérience ne vous a pas convaincu.

Respectueusement soumis par Sophie Dutoy

	ROMANS-FICTION 2019			
AM	Roman Amour	Romance	11	
AC	Roman Suspense-Action	Action Thriller	2	
AV	Roman Aventure	Adventure	9	
BI	Roman Biographiques	Biographical	21	
ET	Roman Etranger	Foreign	25	
FAM	Roman Familial	Family	8	
FN	Roman Fantastique	Fantasy	11	
GN	Roman Général	General Novel	112	
HI	Roman hHstorique	Historical	33	
HU	Roman Humoristique	Humour	2	
LF	Roman de Filles	Women's interest	2	
LI	Roman Littéraire	Literary novels	8	
NV	Nouvelles	Short stories	14	
POL	Roman Policier	Mystery	41	
SA	Sagas	Saga	16	
SF	Roman Science-fiction	Science fiction	6	
TI	Roman Thriller psychologique	Intellectual thriller	27	
	Poésie	Poetry	2	
	Correspondance	Correspondence	1	
	Journal	Diary	1	
	Récit	Story	3	
	Album	Album	1	
	Contes	Tale	1	
			357	

C. Junior Section Report

D.

Book Selection

The purchasing team consists of Sandra Munro for picture books, albums, easy readers and graphic novels, Beverley Beauchamp for mini-romans, romans and bandes dessinées, Margaret Hallahan for junior fiction, Wanda Lowensteyn for young adults, Roxanne Nobles-Gill for ados and Susan Murphy for all non-fiction. Mimi Winlow purchases DVD's and Beverley Beauchamp purchases CD's and kits in both French and English.

We have 2 major buying sprees; 1 in the spring and again in the fall. We purchase requests and award-winners as they appear.

Purchases

The budget is allocated according to the following formula: 55% English, 35% French and 10% AV, with 75% apportioned to fiction and 25% to non-fiction.

454 English books, 341 French books and 25 AV items were purchased for a total of \$12,684.

Most English purchases are from Babar and French purchases from Monet.

Shelf Maintenance

Margaret Hallahan, Sandra Munro, Susan Murphy and Beverley Beauchamp meet on a weekly basis to shelf-read, weed, decorate and to organize displays.

Publicity

Displays on various topics are set up through the year: such as seasons, holidays and important events. Items are submitted to the *News and Views* about special events.

Special Projects and Events

This summer we participated in the TD Reading Program for the fourth consecutive year. We had 52 children register this year, by far our best showing. The children receive personal log books and stickers and over a period of 8 weeks, are provided with weekly challenges. Participation prizes are given on completion of each challenge and they are eligible to win a prize in the raffle held at the end of the program.

Thank you to Christopher Marsh for his excellent organization and enthusiasm. From promoting registration to providing weekly challenges (along with his own samples!); his devotion to the program is the reason for its success.

Appreciation

Sincere thanks go to Sandra Munro, Susan Murphy and Margaret Hallahan for their Tuesday morning efforts. Christopher Marsh and Linda Audet have provided ongoing support with valuable assistance and advice, for which we are very grateful. We also greatly appreciate the work of the book processing and book mending volunteers, who help to ensure that our collection is up-to-date and in good shape.

Coordinating the work of the Junior Section is a pleasant experience and help is never too far away!

Respectfully submitted, Beverley Beauchamp

E. Periodicals Report

A generous budget of \$2750 allows us to purchase a bilingual, diverse collection of periodicals. Monthly circulation of magazines is high indicating their popularity with our patrons. Country

Life, a magazine devoted to property, gardens and British architecture circulated 92 times in 2019! Home trends, cooking and gardening topics remain the most popular magazines. Recent additions include Hello Canada and The Walrus. This is a Canadian general interest magazine with an international outlook on politics and culture. It has expert analysis of news and events. Whether your interest is in current events, sports, exercise, hobbies, geography, home life, fashion, science and technology or psychology, we hope you find something interesting. In addition to our eclectic, bilingual adult collection, we have magazines for our teens and children. I am thankful for Jennifer William's help in cataloguing and shelving our large collection.

Respectfully submitted, Dianne Perdue Lillie

F. Audiovisual Report

The Audio/Visual purchasing team was made up of the following members:

Philip Cumyn	Classical Music CDs
John Ahrens	Popular Music CDs
Kitty Wilkes	Adult DVDs

<u>Purchases for the year</u>	<u>Acquisitions</u>	<u>Cost of Purchase</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
Classical Music CDs	2	22.98	350.00	327.02
Popular Music CDs	2	31.65	500.00	468.35
Adult DVDs	55	2302.98	2450.00	147.02
Totals		2357.61	3300.00	942.39

For 2019, new acquisitions of classical music were made as a response to specific requests. Philip announced that after 10 years of service, he would be stepping down from the position of purchasing classical CDs. We offer him our heartfelt thanks for his knowledgeable contribution to building the library's classical music collection.

I also want to thank John Ahrens for his continuing service in purchasing popular CDs and thanks to Chris & Linda for their DVD suggestions throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted by Kitty Wilkes

G. Report on Exhibitions

The year started off slowly but, by March we managed to get an exhibit from the AVH School of works by their students inspired by the Impressionist Masters.

This was followed in May by works of 5th and 6th graders from Dorset School. These consisted of very colourful pictures which included: The Great Wave, Winter Cardinals and Dragon Eyes.

In June, the Cub Scouts mounted an exhibition of their Kub Kars and Trucks which they had raced. These were mounted on a track which was placed on a bookcase and tilted to afford a better view.

For August and September, we featured new works by Joyce Yan. Joyce has been a frequent exhibiter at the Library.

In October, Anne-Marie Rousseau exhibited a collection of oils which depicted portraits and scenes from different parts of Europe and North Africa.

In December the Quilters displayed their Craft. It included a local renown Quilter. This exhibit remained until early January.

Respectfully submitted by Toby Skeie

Volunteers

The library at the present time has 83 volunteers. Over the year, we have had 7 volunteers retire, many of whom worked multiple shifts in the Library. They are truly missed.

However we have been lucky to have 13 new volunteers, so our numbers are strong coming into the new year. I would like to thank Chris Marsh for his advertising campaign and making our community aware of our need for more help, especially on the circulation desk. Thank you.

The circulation desk makes up the majority of our volunteers - 68. These hard working volunteers keep the library open for 31.5 hours each week. During this time, there are fourteen 2 or 2.5 hours shift per week, usually staffed by 2 individuals. We are all supported by Chris Marsh, who skillfully directs the workings of the library and answers our many questions.

As well, a number of our volunteers work behind the scenes, and many have more than one position. These involve working on the Executive Committee, Junior and Adult English & French Committees, Magazines, Audio-Visual, training our new volunteers, exhibits, repairing books, work room activities and the News & Views. It is a very large undertaking which requires a large stable volunteer base.

Respectfully submitted by Margaret Hallahan.

BAIE-D'URFÉ LIBRARY

Report of the Adult French Book Selection Committee

General Assembly - February 24th, 2020

For 2019, our budget was in the amount of \$15,600, a bit more than \$1,000 lower than the previous year, but more in line with the prorated number of Francophone readers compared to the Anglophone ones. This was still a generous budget which allowed us to purchase 459 books and 18 audio books. Out of the 459 books we bought, 137 (30%) were by Quebecer authors and 322 (70%) by foreign authors who either wrote in French or were translated to French.

This proportion is very similar to that of the last two years: 31% - 69% in 2017 and 31.5%-68.5% in 2018.

The overall average price for books this year was \$33.96, while the average price of a Quebecer book was \$27.9 and of a foreign book \$34.02.

77% of the budget was assigned to fiction books, literature, mysteries, historical fictions, fantasy, science fiction, biographies and novellas. Essays and non-fiction books represent 20% of our purchases and the comic books 3%.

In 2018, 62% of the budget had been devoted to fiction, 35% to non-fiction and 3% to graphic novels. It appears thus that we purchased noticeably more fictional books in 2019 and less non-fictional ones.

Looking at the circulation in 2019 we see that there has been more fictional books loaned but not very substantially. The loan of the non-fictional books of the two last years was fairly identical while the graphic novels have been much more successful in 2019 after a substantial drop previous year.

With the help of Linda and Chris, we were able to design a categorization system of the various kinds of fiction books in order to be able to identify the genres that are most popular. It is still too early to make conclusions but within six months or so, we will have a more precise idea and should then be able to adjust our choice of books accordingly.

This year, we received approximately 22 suggestions for new books,

compared to 20 in 2018; all suggested books were purchased. We still would like to have more insight as to what our members' favourite kinds of books are. With the help of the Executive we will continue to reflect on what can be done to obtain such information.

The Committee met twice in 2019 but most of the work is done electronically, exchanging lists of books via email. Our next meeting on February 27th will be an important one, following the General Assembly to analyze the 2019 activities and decide on the course of action to take next, depending on the outcome of the General Assembly.

At this point, I would like to express my gratitude to Manon Tourigny, Marjolaine Loevenich and Philippe Paulmier, members of our purchasing committee, who spare no efforts in researching various sources, critiques and commentaries before recommending books, and who, always with grace and kindness, achieve such great results.

And thank you to Linda and Chris, who are always ready to help with their expertise and to provide us with pertinent information to allow us to make more accurate choices. I also thank the Executive Committee, particularly Elise Titman, for their continuing support and encouragement.

And of course, a big Thank You to Mayor Tutino and to the Council for their financial support which, together with the support of the Provincial Government, allow us to keep going!!

SOIRÉE DES LECTEURS

I would like to add a few words about *Soirée des Lecteurs*. It is held every 3rd Thursday of the month and attended by a group of 6 to 10 persons, who have been attending since this activity was launched. Each of the participant presents a book that he/she read, liked and recommends to other readers.

Very often, these meetings and presentations generate interesting and stimulating discussions; these exchanges are a source of personal enrichment and they help creating lasting bonds between the members of the group.

The books that are presented are prominently displayed afterwards on the shelves, and they are also featured on a standard fiche that becomes

available to library members and often guide their choice of the book to read.

The goal of these meetings is to promote reading and they are held in the hope of attracting others and allow them to discover/enjoy the pleasure of reading.

Come once and see for yourself - an exploratory visit. No commitment required or expected. We will therefore be very happy to welcome new participants.

Respectfully submitted by

Sophie Dutoy